

## Abstract

Human semaphorin L (H-SemaL) and corresponding semaphorins in other  
5 species.

The invention relates to novel semaphorins which are distinguished by a  
particular domain structure and derivatives thereof, nucleic acids (DNA, RNA,  
cDNA) which code for these semaphorins, and derivatives thereof, and the  
10 use thereof.

The present invention relates to semaphorins which have a novel, as yet  
undisclosed and unexpected domain structure and which possess a  
biochemical function in the immune system (immunomodulating  
15 semaphorins). The novel semaphorins are referred to as type L semaphorins  
(SemaL). They comprise an N-terminal signal peptide, a characteristic Sema  
domain and, in the C-terminal region of the protein, an immunoglobulin-like  
domain and a hydrophobic domain which represents a potential  
transmembrane domain.